PROJECT TITLE : QA ANALYTICAL SERVICES

PERIOD COVERED : DECEMBER 22 1981 - JANUARY 25 1982

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1.1. METHODS

- The following method was added to the method-file:
  - Determination of Nicotine in Cambridge Filter Extracts, Reference method (No 215)

    The nicotine is extracted from the Cambridge filter by isopropanol. The quantitative determination is carried out on a GC with ethyl caprate as an internal standard.

1.2. SPECIFICATIONS

- The following product specifications were added to the file:
  - Aqueous ammonia (No 10.0560)
  - Carbon dioxide (No 10.9801)
  - Meerschaum (part of P FM/036, Semi FLI)
- Charcoal (FA 011-2 and FA 058-1)

  The maximum limit of the iron content (magnetic particles, was increased to 0.7 % (instead of 0.3 %). This change is provisional and only valid for the supplier PICA. The final value will be discussed after revision of the method concerning the determination of magnetic particles (1).

3.7.1. TRIALS WITH SEAM GLUES

- "MONATEX D 4217" (MONARCOL MARKETING LTD, West Thurock (GB)/ yellow sheet 6150)

  This is a liquid glue based on starch. The glueing properties were comparable with those of the standard glue (LESSO 1487 X 3). However, as its viscosity is too low (2400 cps), the glue has a tendency to pass through the cigarette paper.

  As the storage time and the conservation of starch-based liquid glues lead to delicate problems and as the production center of MONARCOL is in Great Britain, further trials are not planned.

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3.8.1. TRIALS WITH PACKING GLUES

- Trials in connection with the speed up of a MOLINS HL packing machine in Cousset (2)

  - "LESSO V 3B" (LAESSER AG, Erlinsbach/yellow sheet 6186, 50 kg)

    The trial was run at 225 HLP/min. The glueing properties on the machine were satisfactory. A significant improvement was found as regards the formation of a film and foam, compared with the previous trial with the type "LESSO V 3A".

    The trial will be repeated when the MOLINS HL is functional at 250 HLP/min.

5.1. PRODUCT QUALITY

- BSB-cigarettes (Production N 42) (3)

  During the production a significantly greater number of spots were detected on the cigarettes.

  As it was decided to no longer treat the reconstituted tobacco with PC-solution, the solution is now applied to a smaller quantity of tobacco. In this case, the risk of a lower regularity with resulting higher local concentration of additives (e.g. humectants) is increased. High local concentrations of humectants are responsible for the formation of spots.

  Furthermore, when large amounts of Burley tobacco, which has not undergone any special treatment, are added to the blend, the formation of local concentrations seems to be favoured. Therefore, blends having large amounts of reconstituted tobacco and large amounts of not specifically treated Burley tobacco represent a potential risk for the formation of an increased number of spots on the cigarettes (4).

5.3. ASSISTANCE TO OTHER AFFILIATES

- Assistance for the ETNA-plant in PMH Bergen op Zoom

  Humectants in tobacco (16 samples)

REFERENCES

1 Letter from Widmer-A to PICA, Lavallois (January 8 1982)
2 Monthly report Widmer-A (November 1981)
3 Letter from Schwarb-A to Grossen-E (January 13 1982)
4 Letter from Schwarb-A to Niklaus-P (January 15 1982

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